

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 SS-20 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 ACDA-19 IO-14 INRE-00 AF-10

EUR-25 /155 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:TCHUBBARD/HLEVIN:RD

APPROVED BY NEA - JJSISCO

EA/J - MR. ERICSON

EA - MR. SNEIDER

NEA/ARN - MR. RANSOM (DRAFT)

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

S/S-O:RMWRIGHT

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O 271931Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 212593

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:ENRG, PFOR, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE RESPONSE TO ARAB APPROACH ON MIDDLE EAST

REF: A. TOKYO 13945, B. TOKYO 13871

1. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM FONOFF WE APPRECIATE ADVANCE INFORMATION ON CONTENTS OF JAPANESE NOTE VERBALE IN RESPONSE TO NOTE PRESENTED OCT 19 BY TEN ARAB AMBASSADORS AS REPORTED REFTELS. WE BELIEVE FIRM STAND WHICH JAPANESE NOTE REPRESENTS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COMMON GOAL OF MOVING PARTIES TO MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT TOWARD PEACEFUL SOLUTION. WE ARE PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT GOJ DID NOT GO BEYOND WORDING OF UN RES 242. ORAL REFERENCE TO WITHDRAWAL FROM "ALL" OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AS SUGGESTED BY PARA 3 REF B COULD HAVE COMPLICATED UN DELIBERATIONS AND ATTRACTED FURTHER ARAB PRESSURES TO JAPAN FOR STATEMENTS OR
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POLICIES LESS EVENHANDED THAN WORLD CONSENSUS AS EVIDENCED

IN UN RESOLUTIONS.

2. DURING CALL ON DEPUTY ASST SECY ATHERTON (NEA) OCT 25, (PRIOR RECEIPT REFTELS) JAPANESE MINISTER YAMAZAKI DID NOT REFER TO GOJ RESPONSE TO ARAB NOTE. AT CONCLUSION OF GENERAL DISCUSSION OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, YAMAZAKI RAISED QUESTION OF OIL, NOTING ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ARAB PRODUCERS OF CONTINUED REDUCTIONS UNTIL ISRAELI FORCES WITHDRAW FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HE ASKED HOW SERIOUS WE

THOUGHT SAUDIS, IN PARTICULAR, WERE IN PERSEVERING WITH THIS POLICY. ATHERTON SAID HE HOPED SAUDIS AND OTHERS WOULD NOT CONTINUE AND SAID WE WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR TO THEM THAT IF U.S. IS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN REACHING A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE, WE CANNOT BE SUBJECT TO THREATS OR PRESSURES. YAMAZAKI ASKED AGAIN IF, HOWEVER, THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT HAD MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO THE U.S. THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE REDUCTIONS UNLESS ISRAEL WITHDREW. ATHERTON SAID THAT VARIOUS SAG OFFICIALS HAD SAID THIS BUT THAT WE HOPED THAT THEY WOULD RECONSIDER AND WE WOULD URGE THEM TO DO SO. ATHERTON REPLIED THAT WE WERE VERY SYMPATHETIC WITH THE DILEMMA OF JAPAN.

3. YAMAZAKI SAID THAT JAPAN'S POSITION HAD BEEN DESCRIBED BY ARABS AS "ODIOUS NEUTRALITY" BECAUSE OF GENERAL COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH US AND NOTED THAT GOJ WAS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY USG ACTIONS. HE URGED USG TO DO ALL IT COULD TO HAVE REDUCTIONS LIFTED. ATHERTON SAID THE SITUATION TODAY WAS VERY DIFFERENT THAN WHEN THE OIL MEASURES WERE ADOPTED. THE TALKS IN MOSCOW, THREE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, AND U.S. ENGAGEMENT IN THE PEACE-MAKING PROCESS HAD ALL LAID THE BASIS FOR US TO URGE END OF CUTBACKS, AND WE WOULD DO SO. ATHERTON PROVIDED GENERAL REVIEW OF ME SITUATION FOR YAMAZAKI.

4. MEETING CONCLUDED WITH AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY ON THIS ISSUE.

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